

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

INRE-00 SCCT-01 /098 W

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O P 072030Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3097

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TOKYO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PANAMA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

USLO PEKING PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L GEORGETOWN 1387

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, UG, GY

SUBJECT: GUYANA REACTION TO ISRAELI RESCUE OPERATION

REF: A) GEORGETOWN 1380 (NOTAL) B STATE 166529

C) STATE 167345

1. SUMMARY: I GAVE FONMIN WILLS MUCH OF INFOR-
MATION IN REF C, BUT GOT REACTION THAT AMIN'S COOPERATION WITH
TERRORISTS WAS LARGELY IMMATERIAL SINCE WILLS AND CABINET FELT
ISRAEL WOULD HAVE STAGED OPERATION IN ANY EVENT. WILLS AND GOG
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APPARENTLY HAVE MOVED TOWARD POSTION OF RACIALLY-BASED HOSTILITY

TO ISRAEL, THOUGH WILLS SAID HE FAVORS POSTPONING RESOLUTION CERTAIN TO BE VETOED BY WESTERN POWERS. ACCORDING WILLS, GUYANA CABINET FEELS INTERVENTION IN UGANDA BY ISRAEL MUST SOMEHOW BE PUBLICLY CONDEMNED BY INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST TO PREVENT PRECEDENT WHICH COULD BE USED BY BRAZILIANS OR OTHERS TO INTERVENE MILITARILY IN GUYANA. END SUMMARY.

2. I SAW FONMIN WILLS AGAIN NOON JULY 7 ON THIS MATTER. I HANDED HIM PAPER WITH TEXT OF PARAS 9 THROUGH 15, REF C, MODIFIED ONLY TO REMOVE REFERENCE TO ISRAEL EMBASSY AS SOURCE OF ACCOUNTS. I ALSO WENT OVER SOME OF CLASSIFIED PORTIONS OF TEXT OF REF C ORALLY.

3. WILLS SAID THAT HE, MOST MEMBERS OF CABINET AND HE UNDERSTANDS MOST AFRICAN LEADERS VIEW THE ALLEGED COOPERATION OF AMIN WITH THE TERRORISTS AS BASICALLY IMMATERIAL. WILLS SAID HE FELT THE ISRAELIS WOULD HAVE CARRIED OUT THE OPERATION EVEN IF AMIN HAD SIMPLY SURROUNDED THE PLANE WITH TROOPS AND OFFERED THE TERRORISTS NO ENCOURAGEMENT, SINCE THEIR BASIC PURPOSE WAS TO DRAMATICALLY SQUASH THE TERRORISTS. WILLS CONTINUED THAT THE ISSUE HAS NOW BECOME IRRETRIEVABLY TIED UP WITH BLACK/WHITE RACIAL CONFLICT IN AFRICA. HE EXPLAINED THAT THE ESSENTIAL REASON WHY MANY AFRICAN STATES REACTED FAVORABLY TO THE LARGELY BLACK CUBAN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA AGAINST THE WHITE SOUTH AFRICANS WAS THAT IT DESTROYED THE MYTH OF WHITE INVINCIBILITY WHICH HAD BEEN ESTABLISHED BY THE MERCENARIES IN THE CONGO. WITH THIS OPERATION, ACCORDING TO WILLS, THAT MYTH HAS BEEN RE-ESTABLISHED.

4. WILLS SAID CABINET YESTERDAY HAD REACTED WITH VEHEMENCE AGAINST ISRAELI OPERATION IN UGANDA, NOTING THAT SOME "WILD MEN" HAD WANTED GUYANA TO SPONSOR RESOLUTION EXPELLING ISRAEL FROM U.N. WILLS CLAIMED IT HAD TAKEN HIM BETTER PART OF TWO HOURS TO INDUCE MORE REALISTIC REACTION TO SITUATION. WILLS SAID, HOWEVER, THAT HE AGREED ISRAEL ACTION WAS "DISASTEROUS" TO ISRAEL'S POSITION IN THIRD WORLD.

5. WILLS SAID THAT GUYANA WILL HAVE TO SUPPORT CONDEMNATION OF ISRAEL IF IT COME TO A VOTE IN THE S.C. WILLS SAID THIS NECESSITY IS NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF SOLIDARITY WITH OAU STATES, BUT LARGELY BECAUSE OF LOCAL SITUATION WHEREBY ISRAELI INTERVENTION COULD BE CONFIDENTIAL

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USED AS PRECEDENT BY BRAZIL FOR INTERVENTION IN GUYANA. HE INDICATED HE IS IN TWICE DAILY TELEPHONE CONTACT WITH RASHLEIGH JACKSON AND HAS INSTRUCTED JACKSON TO KEEP HIM INFORMED AND SEEK INSTRUCTIONS AT EVERY STAGE OF WAY. WILLS SAID HE HOPES TO AVOID SITUATION LAST FALL WHEN JACKSON CAST GUYANA'S VOTE IN FAVOR OF ZIONISM IS RACISM ISSUE WITHOUT ADEQUATE CONSULTATION WITH WILLS.

6. I TOLD WILLS WHETHER THE ISRAELI OPERATION WAS JUSTIFIED OR NOT

IT WAS OBVIOUSLY A FAIT ACCOMPLI AND THE QUESTION WAS NOW HOW SHOULD THE S.C. AND SPECIFICALLY GUYANA AND THE U.S. REACT. WILLS SAID HE FELT SOME SPECIFIC UNILATERAL ACTS BY ISRAEL WERE NOW ESSENTIAL TO AVERT AN EXTREMELY HOSTILE RESOLUTION WHICH HE RECOGNIZED WOULD INEVITABLY BE VETOED BY U.S. AND POSSIBLY FRANCE AND U.K. HE SAID HE WOULD RECOMMEND AN ISRAELI STATEMENT REGRETTING THE LOSS OF UGANDAN LIVES IN THE OPERATION AND OFFERING COMPENSATION FOR THE FAMILIES OF THE SOLDIERS KILLED. HE SAID EVEN WITH SUCH A STATEMENT, GUYANA AND MOST OF THE AFRICAN COUNTRIES STILL MUST GET SOMETHING ON THE RECORD INDICATING PUBLICLY THAT THEY DO NOT CONDONE INTERVENTION. HE FELT SUCH A RESOLUTION COULD ALSO SPECIFY THAT TERRORISM IS NOT CONDONED AND THAT NO NATION SHOULD COOPERATE WITH TERRORISTS BUT THAT ANY RESOLUTION WHICH GUYANA AND THE AFRICAN STATES SUPPORTED MUST BE CLEARLY MORE AIMED AT ISRAEL THAN AT UGANDA.

7. I TOLD WILLS I WOULD PASS HIS OBSERVATIONS ON TO WASHINGTON. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WIGH GUYANA LIKELY TO BE HOSTILE TO OUR PROPOSED ANTI-TERRORIST RESOLUTION, I DID NOT RPT NOT TELL WILLS THAT WE PLAN TO TAKE SUCH PRE-EMPTORY ACTION NOR DID I SOLICIT GUYANA'S SUPPORT FOR SUCH A RESOLUTION
MATTHEWS

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